

MEMORANDUM

Memo 13- 120-01

TO: Chief Kevin Treadway
FROM: Sgt. Matt Wright #704
DATE: December 23, 2013
RE: Application for Off Track Wagering Permit for Turf Paradise at Jax Sports Bar

The Jax Sports Bar and Turf Paradise have presented an application with the City of Flagstaff for an Off-Track Wagering permit.

I contacted Matthew Randall, one of the owners of Jax. Matthew explained the security in place to monitor the wagering and to ensure no underage people are served alcohol or allowed to make bets. The wagering area will be staffed by employees of Turf Paradise who will have already completed a background check. These employees will ensure nobody under the age of 21 are allowed to make any bets. Jax has an under 21 area but this area is separated by a wall and a door.

Vincent Arci Francia is the applicant (President/General Manager) for Turf Paradise, David Johnson and Frank Abbate are both listed as managers of Turf Paradise. Francia, Johnson and Abbate are registered with the State Racing Commission and have passed their background investigation process.

I conducted a local records query on Francia, Johnson, Abbate and Randall. I found no records of concern. I researched the address of 101 and 107 S. San Francisco for police responses for reported activity several noise complaints were made but no criminal liquor violations were found under the new ownership. Nothing related to off track wagering was found as this is a new license application. I contacted the Arizona Department of Racing by telephone. I was advised that there are no laws mandating a valid liquor license be in place at the same location of an Off Track Betting site.

It should be noted the owners of Jax do not receive any profit from Turf Paradise and the off-track betting. The Jax simply provides Turf Paradise a location for the off-track betting to occur. The employees of the off-track betting are employees of Turf Paradise and not the bar.

Based on this investigation, I can find no reason to oppose the issuance of this permit.